

Message Text

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USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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SUBJ: PEOPLE'S DAILY "COMMENTATOR" ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN VIETNAM

REF: HONG KONG 3335

SUMMARY: AN AUTHORITATIVE PEOPLE'S DAILY "COMMENTATOR" ARTICLE OF APRIL 13 CONTENDS THAT THE "BIG FUSS" BY THE US ABOUT THE SO-CALLED SOUTH VIETNAMESE REFUGEE ISSUE AND QUESTION OF EVACUATION AND PROTECTION OF AMERICAN S IS A PRETEXT FOR CONTINUING US MEDDLING IN SOUTH VIETNAMESE AFFAIRS. WHILE ASSERTING THAT "THIS MERITS A CLOSE WATCH" , IT DOWNPLAYS RECENT US MOVES IN NOW FAMILIAR TERMS AND PREDICTS THE INEVITABLE FAILURE OF US SCHEMES AND THE ULTIMATE VICTORY OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. END SUMMARY

1. AN AUTHORITATIVE PEOPLE'S DAILY "COMMENTATOR" ON

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APRIL 13 REFERS TO RECENT VICTORIES BY " PATRIOTIC ARMY AND

PEOPLE" IN VIETNAM AND CONTENDS THE "BIG FUSS" BY THE US ABOUT THE SO-CALLED ISSUES OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AND THE DISPATCH OF US TROOPS AND WARSHIPS IN CONNECTION WITH EVACUATION OF AMERICAN " MERITS A CLOSE WATHC BY ALL NATIONS AND PEOPLES CONCERNED WITH SAFEGUARDING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT". THE ARTICLE, WHICH WAS CARRIED BY NCNA THE SAME DAY, ALSO EXPRESSES THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S (AS DISTINCT FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S) "FIRM SUPPORT" FOR THE PRG AND DRVN STATEMENTS OF APRIL 7 AND 8 ON THESE ISSUES.

2. COMMENTATOR REJECTS ASSERTIONS THAT THERE ARE "REFUGEES FROM COMMUNISM" IN SOUTH VIETNAM. HOWEVER, IT DECLARES THAT, IF THERE ARE ANY REFUGEES IN THE SOUTH, THEY ARE THE RESULT OF "ATROCITIES" OF THE "THIEU CLIQUE UNDER US SUPPORT" . THE US NOW USES THE ISSUE TO ASSIT THE "THIEU CLIQUE TO GATHER MAN-POWER AND MATERIAL RESOURCES FOR CONTINUING THE WAR".

". THE ARTICLE ALLEGES THAT "VICIOUS DESIGNS" ALSO EXIST WITH REGARD TO THE QUESTION OF EVACUATION AND PROTECTION OF AMERICANS. COMMENTATOR STATES THAT IT IS "WELL KNOWN" THAT THE US VIOLATED THE AGREEMENT BY SENDING IN MILITARY PERSONNEL IN CIVILIAN GARB, WHO " SHOULD, OF COURSE, HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN IN ENTIRELY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT." THE ISSUE OF AMERICAN EVACUATIONS IS NOT A PROBLEM BUT RATHER A PRETEXT FOR US ATTEMPTS TO INTIMIDATE AND PRESSURE THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. COMMENTATOR CITES THE PRG'S APRIL 7 STATEMENT THAT THE USG SO-CALLED REFUGEE PROBLEM AND PLAN FOR EVACUATION OF AMEICANS ARE "OUT-AND-OUT NEW PLOTS TO MEDDLE IN SOUTH VIETNAM" AND THAT DERIDES US EFFORTS TO "SAVE" THE THIEU CLIQUE AS A FUTILE, "CRIMINAL AIM."

4. MAKING NO DEMANDS ON THE US, COMMENTATOR MERELY POINTS OUT THAT THE "CORRECT WAY" TO SETTLE THE SOUTH VIETNAM QUESTION IS FOR THE USG TO "IMMEDIATELY WITHDRAW" ALL WARSHIPS FROM SOUTH VIETNAMESE WATERS, STOP ALL INVOLVEMENT AND INTERFERENCE, THOROUGHLY RESPECT AND IMPLEMENT THE PARIS PEACE ACCORDS, AND ALLOW TH VIETNAMESE TO SOLVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE--AN ECHO OF THE PRG STATEMENT.

5. IN TERMS USED PREVIOUSLY IN COMMENTING ON US INVOLVEMENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN INDOCHINA, A CHIDING COMMENTATOR SUGGESTS THAT THE US HAS NOT LEARNED FROM HISTORY. THE ALMOST PERFUNCTORY ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT TO SEND " A FEW WARSHIPS TO INTIMIDATE AND INCREASE A LITTLE THE AMOUNT OF US DOLLARS FOR BOLSTERING THE PUPPETS" WILL BE IN VAIN AND PREDICTS THE INEVITABLE VICOTRY FOR THE VIETNAMESE PEOPLE.

6. THE ARTICLE IS NOTABLE AS THE FIRST PRC PRONOUNCE-

MENT ON THE REFUGEE ISSUE. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED HONG KONG 3335),
PRC MEDIA HAVE FEATURED FEW SELF-GENERATED COMMENTS ON RECENT
EVENTS IN INDOCHIAN AND NCNA REPLAYS OF PRG AND DRVN REPORTS
AND STATEMENTS HAVE OFTEN BEEN TARDY OR EDITED TO DELETE MORE
VITRIOLIC COMMENTS. THE AUTHORITATIVE AND MODERATELY WORDED
COMMENTATOR ARTICLE CONTINUES THIS LOW-KEY PATTERN.
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